

UNDERWOOD, CHARLIE R. INTERVIEW

4718

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BIOGRAPHY FORM.  
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
 Indian-Pioneer History Project for Oklahoma

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UNDERWOOD, CHARLIE R.

INTERVIEW.

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Field Worker's name Inez A. Merrick.This report made on (date) June 28 19371. Name Charlie R. Underwood.2. Post Office Address Randlett, Oklahoma.

3. Residence address (or location) \_\_\_\_\_

4. DATE OF BIRTH: Month April Day 5 Year 18845. Place of birth Taylor County, Kentucky. Near Pitman.6. Name of Father Wm. G. Underwood. Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about father \_\_\_\_\_

7. Name of Mother Harriet Lindville. Place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Other information about mother \_\_\_\_\_

Notes or complete narrative by the field worker dealing with the life and story of the person interviewed. Refer to Manual for suggested subjects and questions. Continue on blank sheets if necessary and attach firmly to this form. Number of sheets attached: 2

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Inez A. Merrick.  
Investigator,  
June 28, 1937.

An Interview with Charlie R. Underwood.  
Randlett, Oklahoma.

In December 1907, I came to the Big Pasture after drawing the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 30, Township 4 S, Range 12 W. I had left my wife and son in Missouri and intended to send for them when I had finished hauling our household furniture and implements from Temple, the nearest shipping point.

I erected a three room tent with floors and side walls. It was the finest in the new settlement and I was very proud of it.

The hauling took over two weeks, as there were no roads and the weather was cold. There was a ferry crossing over Cache Creek at that time, known as La Barre's Ferry.

My wife and son came in January. Soon after they arrived our tent was blown away in a strong wind and our furniture was scattered across the prairie. There were no fences to stop its progress.

As soon as the weather permitted, I hauled lumber and built a chicken house. We lived in this until our

house was built, the following year.

One of our greatest diversions was to ride in the buggy in the evenings and watch the prairie fires where the homesteaders were burning off the native grasses in preparation for ploughing.

I broke out forty acres of sod in the spring and planted it all in corn. When my neighbors asked why I was building such large cribs, I replied that they were to hold the corn that I was going to raise. Everybody laughed, but I laughed last because I really raised enough corn to fill the cribs.